

A.L.I.V.E. Bible Study
Date: January 7, 2015
John 2:13-25

1. What did Jesus find when he went to Jerusalem?
 - a. People worshipping God.
 - b. People selling cattle, sheep and doves.
 - c. People sitting at tables exchanging money.

2. Why were they selling animals and changing money in the temple courts?
 - a. People who traveled a long way to make their sacrifice might by their sacrifice when they arrived in Jerusalem rather than bringing their own animal.
 - b. Money paid to the temple had to be paid in a certain kind of coin, so people would change the money from their home into this common coin.
 - c. To take advantage of all of the people coming to town to worship.

3. What problem did Jesus have with this action?
 - a. He didn't believe in money.
 - b. He didn't believe that people should buy and sell goods.
 - c. According to Matthew 21:13, they had made the temple (which should be a house of prayer) a 'den of robbers'
 - d. In Matthew, Jesus quotes a text in Jeremiah (7:9-11) when God is upset with His people for living ungodly lives and then coming to the temple to worship as if they were godly people.
 - e. The temple courts that were being used for this "market" was likely the court of the Gentiles which non-Jews could not go beyond. Therefore, they did not have a place in which to pray and worship.
 - f. Ultimately, people were making it more difficult for people to come close to God because of their actions.

4. What did Jesus' disciples remember when he did this? _____

5. Does zeal for God's house consume you? Yes _____ No _____ What should this look like in the lives of believers today?
 - a. We should keep people from selling things in the "church" building.
 - b. We should make sure that no one comes in the way of people coming to God.
 - c. We should never neglect the opportunity to worship God together with his people.

6. What question did the Jews ask Jesus when he confronted them?
 - a. Who died and made you God?
 - b. Why do we have to do what you say?
 - c. What sign can you show us to prove your authority?

7. What sign did Jesus offer?
 - a. He produced a miracle upon command.
 - b. He alluded to the change of importance from the physical temple to the temple of the Holy Spirit, which dwells in our bodies (and first of all, in his body).
 - c. He pointed to the miracle of the resurrection that was to come.